



Attorney Docket No. DRAK-001/00US  
Prior Attorney Docket No.: CBM-WTS

PATENT

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By: Sherry Duncan Bitler  
Sherry Duncan Bitler

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of      Ronald N. DRAKE      Confirmation No.: 9231  
Serial No.:      10/774,819      Examiner:      I. C. CINTINS  
Filed:      02/09/2004      Art Unit:      1724  
FOR:      CONTINUOUS SELECTIVE ION EXCHANGE PROCESS AND APPARATUS

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**Mail Stop AMENDMENT**  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313

## RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

In response to the Office Action of March 2, 2006, the Examiner requested that the Applicants elect among the following groups of claims:

Group I:      Claims 21-36, 50-77 and 91-103, drawn to an apparatus for removing a component from a fluid, classified in class 210, subclass 266.

Group II:      Claims 37-49 and 78-90, drawn to a method for purifying water, classified in class 210, subclass 670.

Applicants hereby elect, without traverse, Group II, which includes Claims 37-49 and 78-90 for prosecution on the merits.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any appropriate fees under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16, 1.17, and 1.21 that may be required by this paper, and to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-1283.

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